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**DIRECTIONS FOR OPERATING
THE DURABILT F. O. MINUTE BOOK**

(FLEXIBLE POSTS) SHORT PULL ROD STYLE

PATENT 967537—1019174—1056926—1247438—1247704—1738305
ABOVE PATENT NUMBERS MUST NOT BE COVERED

TO UNLOCK the book, raise cover to be unlocked to a vertical position, and pull rod out as far as it will come.

TO LOCK—Adjust the cover back into position so the notches in the cover fit over the posts, then push in rod.

Do not attempt to unlock either cover unless opposite cover is locked, as posts should always be held in one of the covers.

TO LOCK BOOK PERMANENTLY—This is only to be done when all the sheets are written up and placed in the binder, for once permanently locked, it is impossible to unlock or open it.

For this purpose two permanent locking buttons are furnished. Insert these sealing buttons into the round holes near end of locking case so that the slot in the Sealing Button runs lengthwise with the binder. Then drive in button with sufficient force to turn the ends of split button. This permanently locks and seals the book.

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HISTORICAL DIRECTORY



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ROBERT EUGENE MERRILL

Chicago, Ill., 1924



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A L F R E D M I L T O N N E V I N S

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Alfred Milton Nevins was born in Richland, Michigan, April 5, 1862. His father, Jacob Nevins, was born in New Hampshire in 1827 and died in Orangeville Township, Barry County, Michigan, in 1876. The Nevins family came to America in 1711, and were of Scotch Irish descent. Their ancestry has been traced back in direct line to the British family of Nevins. Burke's "General Armory 1884" gives the following description of the family coat of arms:

"Arms 'Azure on a fess between an increscent and a decrescent in chief, and in base a palm branch argent, a crescent of the first'.

"Crest 'On a mount a palm branch vert'."

"Motto 'Nil desperadum'."

Among the ancestors were several generals in the Revolutionary War and in every generation there have been many teachers.

The branch of the family of which Alfred Nevins is a descendant settled in Hollis, New Hampshire, and much later came to Michigan.

Jacob Nevins was a teacher and taught school in both Kalamazoo County and Barry County.

The mother of Alfred M. Nevins was Oril Augusta Brown, born in Tecumseh, Michigan, in 1833. The Brown family came from New England to Michigan in 1835. Oril Augusta Brown, daughter of George Brown, was the first white child in Barry County. Her father and his brother Calvin were the first white settlers in Orangeville Township. These pioneers located on the land which has been retained by this family for four generations, and it was on this farm Alfred Nevins spent most of his life.

Jacob and Augusta Nevins lived in Richland until 1862, and then moved back to the farm which the father of Augusta Nevins had purchased from the United States government. There Jacob died and left his widow with eleven children to rear. At the time of his father's death, Alfred was fourteen years of age and soon assumed the responsibility of one of the older boys in caring for the family.

A great love and respect for learning and education was instilled in these children by their parents. Alfred attended the Brown school winters and later he attended the Otsego high school, planning to fit himself for a teacher, but financial conditions made that impossible.

Alfred was always very ambitious and energetic and had early learned the value of money and with his

brothers had made a living for the family from the farm, but his knowledge of grain and live-stock made it easy for him to turn to buying and selling those commodities, which he continued to do, along with his other activities, for many years. His knowledge and love of people won him many friends and his honesty and integrity in dealing with them built up his business over a wide territory.

In 1897, he purchased the old home farm and started under discouraging conditions, but by strict application to business he was able in a short time to get out of debt and lay the foundations for a competency which permitted him to feel free from cares and worries in later years.

In 1889, Alfred M. Nevins and Eva L. Adams were united in marriage. On the same day his brother Charles married Emma Adams, so that it was a double wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Nevins were the parents of Mrs. Hazel Wildermuth of Yorkville and James L. Nevins, who still lives on the farm and is the father of Ruth Eva, Hugh James and Shirley. Mrs. Eva Nevins is a thrifty, fine woman and resides with her daughter at Yorkville.

Alfred Nevins was always very active and progressive in local affairs and took a leading part

in all elevating social and community endeavors. He served on the school board and was supervisor of Orangeville Township for ten years and for two terms was treasurer of Barry County. He also served two terms as representative in the State Legislature at Lansing, 1921-24. He was active in all farmer club and Farm Co-operative movements and Farm Bureau affairs. He was a director and Vice President of the Farmer's State Savings Bank at Richland at the time of his death.

Mr. Nevins read good books and was unusually well posted on affairs of the world and was always open minded and fair on political questions. He was a strong Republican all his life and served his party well. He was a member of the Masonic Order and was also a member of the Scottish Rite Consistory of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

All his life he attended the Sunday School held at the Brown school house and led a Christian, Godly life. He contributed generously to all charitable organizations and among his best friends were those whom he had helped over hard places.

He was always a lover of sports and enjoyed ball games, races and other activities, not as a participant, but as a spectator.

He was a man who prided himself upon his honesty,

his ambition and his loyalty. He was an unselfish, generous father, a faithful, kind husband and an unfailing dependable neighbor.

The Hastings Banner said of him,

"Alfred M. Nevins was a splendid type of citizen, honest, ambitious, industrious, a man who appreciated his friends and his affable, kindly ways won many of them. Progressive in his ideas, a good manager, possessed of good judgment, he carved out his own way in the world through honesty, industry and the application of good sense, with which he was generously endowed".

When death came to Mr. Nevins he and his wife had been for a boat ride on Crooked Lake to help entertain their little grandson. When they returned he rowed the boat up to the shore, got out, took a few steps and dropped dead. The date was May 10, 1927. The funeral was conducted under Masonic auspices by the Reverend Leason Sharpe of the Hastings Presbyterian Church and burial was in the Brown cemetery, which was originally a corner of the farm on which he had spent most of his life.

Written December 15, 1936.



L.C. Robinson 129

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lewis Newton

E A R L L E W I S N E W T O N

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Earl Lewis Newton was born January 3, 1869, in a log house on a farm in Alamo Township, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, son of Phoebe Ann Lewis and Abram W. Newton. The father, Abram W. Newton, was born June 12, 1832, in Beebetown, Ohio, and died near South Haven, Michigan, September 29, 1899. The mother was born October 3, 1834, and died July 12, 1913. The family is of English descent.

Earl Newton lived in the vicinity of his birth-place until he was eleven years of age, when he moved with his parents to South Haven, Michigan, in or near which place he lived for six years, and where he received the greater part of his education.

At the age of seventeen, Mr. Newton was successfully teaching a district school. This was in the day when each rural district maintained one school, attended by every one in the district between the ages of five and twenty-five who was so inclined. Each pupil was supposed to study the three "R's", and as many higher branches as he or she desired. This resulted in there being many small classes of from one to three or four students. All were pre-

sided over by one teacher, supposedly capable of intelligently teaching any subject desired by any pupil. The "winter term" was often attended by from forty to fifty, including the "big boys and girls", many of whom usually were older than the teacher. The average duration of a class period was ten minutes.

The teaching episode in Mr. Newton's life was followed by a two or three year period of employment in the then well known general store operated by French and Hewson in South Haven.

At the age of twenty-two Mr. Newton accepted a position as book-keeper for what was then known as the Kalamazoo Asylum, later known as the Michigan State Hospital, and occupied that position for eight years. It was during this time that his verses first began to appear in print.

In 1899 Mr. Newton accepted a position in the United States Railway Mail Service, and continued in that service for nearly twenty years. During this time he wrote his first published book, "The Nixie Box" a collection of about fifty poems relative to the Railway Mail Service. A copy of this book is in the Kalamazoo Public Library.

Mr. Newton is a great lover of "Nature's Great Out Doors", and wrote many out door poems, which may be found in his second book, "Tuneful Tales of Camps and

"Trails", a copy of which is in this Library.

After twenty years in the Railway Mail Service, Mr. Newton resigned, ostensibly to engage in the real estate and building business, while devoting much time to the avocation of writing poetry, being a frequent contributor to many papers and magazines. A third book, "The Girl Across the Aisle, and Other Verses", is in the hands of the publishers at the time of this writing, 1936, and others are in the process of compilation.

Mr. Newton has been a member of "Michigan Authors" for many years. The following poems are from his pen:

SOUTHWINDS

There's a tugging at my heartstrings when the
 whisperin' southwinds croon,
 And the air is filled to burstin' with the
 soothin', happy tune;
 When the friendly johnny jump-ups, weary of
 their winter's nod,
 Push their smilin' little faces to the sunlight,
 through the sod;
 When, above, the bees are buzzin', just from
 joy of bein' there;
 Oh, it's good to be out in it, when the Spring
 is in the air.

When the thrushes start to callin', and are
 scratchin' in the edge
 Of the autumn leaves that's drifted into windrows,
 'long the hedge;
 And the bob-o-links are flirtin', and a-flittin'
 in and out
 Through the old rail fence that totters o'er
 the creekbank where the trout
 Venture from their hidin' places in the shadows,
 here and there;
 Oh, it's great to just be livin' when the Spring
 is in the air.

When the earth seems crammed with fragrance
 that comes driftin' on the breeze,
 Past the buds that burst with sweetness on the
 thorn and almond trees;
 When the cardinals, hung in tree-tops, whistle
 greetin's to the sun,
 And the redbreasts chant a welcome to the day
 that's just begun;
 Then I close my eyes an' listen; oh, it's good
 to be alive,
 And just hearken to the singin' when the birds
 of spring arrive.

When the geese are honkin' homeward, and their
 course is northward set,
 And the bobwhite, in the valley, calls for
 "Wet - more - wet";
 When the gray-squirrel, 'mongst the branches,
 voices lovenotes to its mate,
 And the dogwood trees are buddin' on the hillside,
 oh, it's great;
 And it's worth the year of waitin', all the
 wonders to behold,
 When God sends out the Springtime, and its
 miracles unfold.

MY HEAVEN

I'm not so much concerned about
 Just where my heaven will be;
 I'm satisfied to leave all that
 To Heaven's own wise decree.

Nor am I much disposed to mourn
 Because I do not know
 Just what the place is like, this heaven
 To which I hope to go.

I'm very certain it will be
 A lovely place, and fair,
 Because my heaven will be the place
 That He went "to prepare";

A place where there can be no pain,
 Wherein there is no wrong;
 Where angels sing, and even I
 Shall have the gift of song;

I'm sure that in my Father's House
 There'll be for me a place

Where now and then as time goes by,
I'll see the Savior's face;

I'll see that face light up with smiles
For even such as me;
No, I am not so much concerned
About where heaven will be.

His smile, my mother's smile, and all
The loved ones gone before;
My heaven will give me all of these;
What would I ask for, more?

Earl Lewis Newton married when he was twenty-five years of age Lina Brown Judson, daughter of Charles G. and Joanna Brown Judson, of Galesburg, Michigan. Lina Brown Judson was born October 27, 1870. Her father, Charles G. Judson, was born in Auburn, New York November 12, 1837, and died in Kalamazoo, September 29, 1915. Her mother, Joanna Brown Judson, was born in Pluckamin, Somerset County, New Jersey, December 3, 1841, and died in Galesburg, Michigan, September 11, 1897, and is buried in the Galesburg cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Judson were married December 31, 1861. Besides Mrs. Newton they were the parents of the following children: Walter Pixley, born November 22, 1862, and died February 7, 1863; Bertha Laura, born December 10, 1864, married E. F. Osborn; and Lena May, born May 7, 1867, married Mortimer H. Miller of Kalamazoo; Carrie Joanna, who was born October 25, 1874, and resides in Kalamazoo; Frank Payne, born February 2, 1877, and died May 6, 1899, in Galesburg, Michigan;

Earl Charles, born December 8, 1885, resides in Jackson, Michigan, married Rhoda Stimson.

Mrs. Newton was educated in the schools of Galesburg, Michigan. She is an active member of the Ladies Aid and missionary societies of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Kalamazoo, to which both she and her husband belong.

Mrs. Newton is fond of hunting and fishing and accompanies her husband when engaging in these sports.

Mr. Newton had four brothers and three sisters: Wylie L., born November 4, 1855, died April 16, 1864, in Cooper, Michigan; George W., born May 28, 1857, died August 26, 1934 in Sacramento, California, married April 15, 1880, Flora Wilcox, who died in May 1933; Bernard H., born September 5, 1858, married Jennie Wilson October 2, 1879, -resided in Alamo Township - he died August 17, 1922, and she died April 26, 1926; Mary A., born December 12, 1860, and died in Cooper, Michigan, April 17, 1864; Myrtie B., born in October 1862 and died April 15, 1864, in Cooper, Michigan; Edith M., born May 20, 1867, married Fred Mayer; Harry B., born September 2, 1871, married Bertha Jillson of South Haven, Michigan, August 22, 1894, he died at Buckley, Michigan, February 13, 1931. This is written in 1936.

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Nichols



F R E D S A B I N N I C H O L S

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J E N N I E G N I C H O L S

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Fred Sabin Nichols was born on a farm located on the south one-half of the northeast one-fourth of section eighteen in Kalamazoo township, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, where he lived all his life.

He was the son of Sabin M. Nichols of Welsh and Scotch descent, who came from southern Vermont and settled on a farm in Grand Prairie. Fred Nichols' mother's maiden name was Sarah Patch. His brothers were Bryant, who was born May 17, 1845 and died August 10, 1849, and Charles R., born January 25, 1853 and died December 5, 1865. He had one sister, Sarah M., who was born August 20, 1848 and died March 2, 1852.

Fred attended the Alamo Avenue school in Kalamazoo and later the high school from which he was graduated in 1877, in a class of ten boys and ten girls, all of whom are deceased except Fred. When he was through school Fred returned to the farm to reside the rest of his life.

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September 29, 1885, he was married to Jennie Goodridge, who was born February 11, 1865, and died April 20, 1939. Her birth-place was on a farm about a mile west of the Nichols home. Their marriage took place at the home of the bride's parents who had moved to Kalamazoo and resided at 208 Woodward avenue. The officiating clergyman was the Reverend George Hunting, then pastor of the First Presbyterian Church and the wedding company consisted of about forty relatives and friends.

They are the parents of:

Allen, who was born November 3, 1887, married Alta Clark and resides with his father;

Charles Solon, born July 19, 1890, married (1) Hazel Weed, deceased, mother of Barbara Nichols; (2) Myrtle Simmons, resides at 930 West Lovell street, Kalamazoo, and is a member of the faculty of Western State Teachers College;

Ruth Goodridge, who was born June 19, 1898, married William Gorham and resides across the road from her father.

Mr. Fred Nichols joined the First Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo in April, 1884. Mrs. Nichols formerly attended the Plymouth Congregational Church to which her parents belonged. When that church lost its building by fire the family went to the First Presbyterian Church and she became a member in 1884. When she passed away, the Rever-

end Charles Johnson conducted the funeral and she was buried in Mountain Home cemetery. They were among the oldest members of that church. Her devotion to her children and her aid to her husband made of her home a beautiful sanctuary. Her attractive personality endeared her to her many friends.

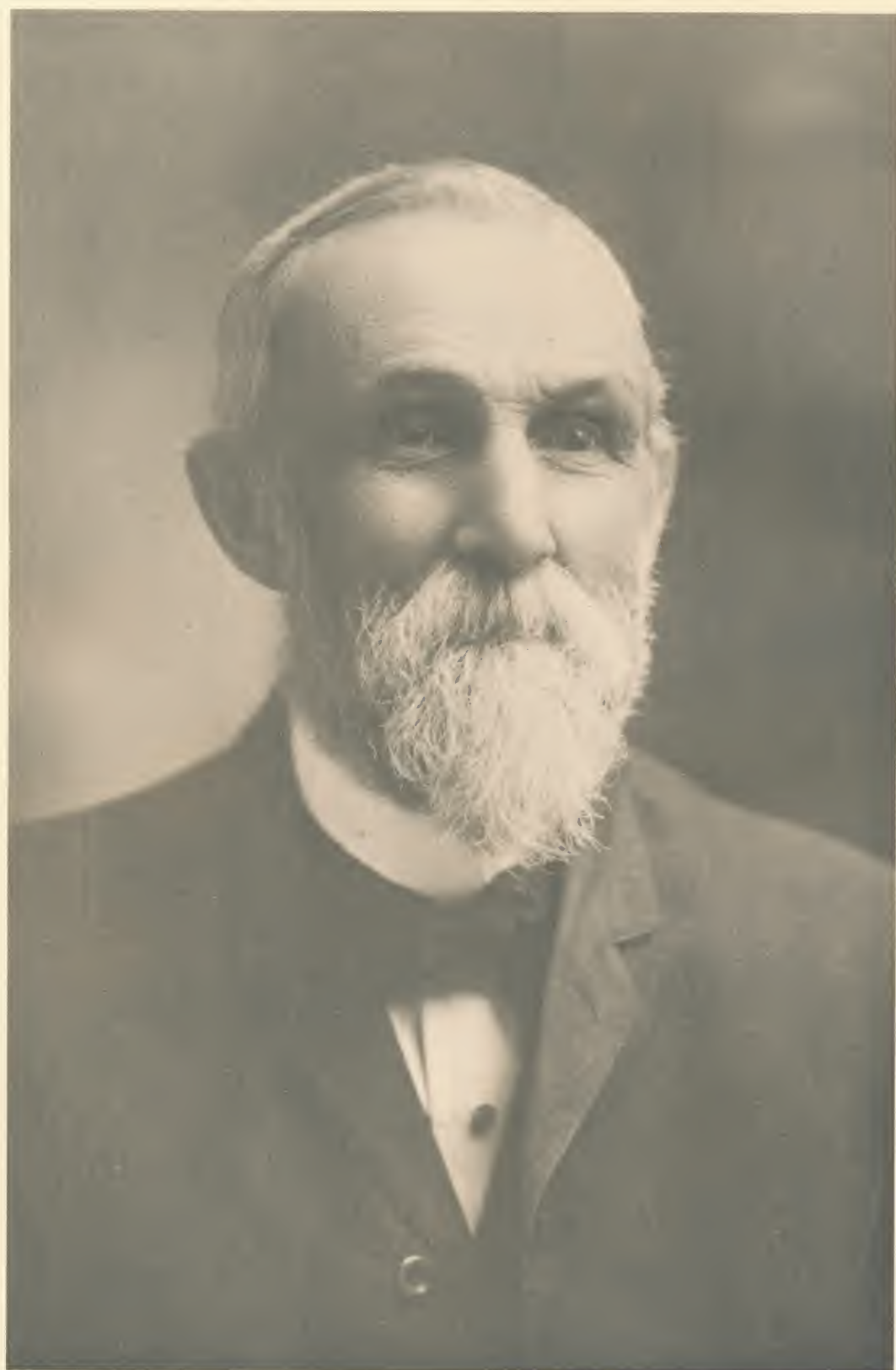
Mr. Nichols is a Republican and cast his vote for James A. Garfield the first time he voted for a president of the United States. He was first elected supervisor of Kalamazoo township in 1896 and has served several times in that office. He also served as director for the school in the district where he lived for a number of years.

At the time of this writing, 1940, he is engaged with his son Allen in dairying, producing milk from about twenty cows. His father, Sabin Nichols, was the first to sell milk in Kalamazoo.

Mr. Nichols is a genial, friendly man, well preserved and mentally alert, and is held in high esteem among his many friends.

Death came to Mr. Fred Nichols July 12, 1942. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Paul Silas Heath, D. D., and burial was in Mountain Home cemetery.

Lord Nichols



L O Y D N I C H O L S

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Loyd Nichols was born in Allegheny county, New York, June 3, 1843, son of Solon J., and Sophronia Griffin Nichols, both of whom were natives of that state and she was born in Franklin county. For thirty years Loyd's father was a blacksmith. In 1873, the family moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where they resided until 1884, when they went to Topeka, Kansas, and Mrs. Solon J. Nichols died in January 1893. He died December 30, 1899, at the age of ninety-four years. They were the parents of two other sons and a daughter.

Loyd Nichols remained in Allegheny county, New York, until he was eighteen years of age and attended the public schools and took a two year course in Rushford Academy, which was located there.

In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, New York infantry. The regiment to which he belonged became a part of the Army of the Potomac and was almost constantly in active service. Mr. Nichols was in the battles of Williamsburg and Fair Oaks and at the latter was shot through the elbow, which

disabled him for further service and in August, 1862, he was discharged with the rank of First Sergeant, to which he had risen by meritorious conduct.

In 1865, Loyd Nichols came to Michigan and one year later he moved to Kansas and prospered but suffered a serious accident in a train wreck and was unconscious for forty days. He returned to Kalamazoo and lived for several years at 522 Oak street and then went back to Kansas, but returned to Kalamazoo in 1888, and lived in Kalamazoo county until he passed away.

In 1888, he was married to Sophia Humphrey, daughter of William J., and Elmira Spear Humphrey, the father a native of New York and the mother a native of Vermont. Both were pioneers, the father coming to Michigan in 1840, located in Barry county on sixty-five acres of land for which he paid his brother-in-law two hundred dollars which he earned before he was twenty-one. Elmira Spear came to Michigan with her parents with an ox team in 1833. Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey came into possession of four hundred acres of land in sections one and twelve of Richland township, where the grandson, Roy Nichols, lives at the time of this writing in 1940.

Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Nichols became the parents of:

Ruth Lucile, who was born February 6, 1889, and died February 10, 1920;

Roy L., who was born March 6, 1891, married Joyce M. Ellsworth.

Loyd Nichols was a Republican and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. While on guard duty as a soldier during the Civil War around the White House in Washington, D. C., he often saw President Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. Nichols was brought up in a Presbyterian home, both parents being members of that communion, and for many years he served as an elder in the Presbyterian church in Richland, Michigan.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Nichols began housekeeping on the farm which she inherited from her father and they purchased a small farm which joined it. She died November 10, 1924.

Mr. Nichols was a great reader and a diligent Bible student. He was a regular attendant at the services of his church on Sundays and through the week and was the teacher of an adult class in the Sunday school.

Death came to him April 25, 1921. The funeral was conducted from the home and burial was in the Richland cemetery.

Robert Jasper Nichols



R O B E R T J A S P E R N I C H O L S

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Boatswain's Mate First Class Robert Jasper Nichols was killed in action in the South Pacific Ocean December 18, 1944.

He enlisted in the United States Navy August 14, 1940, and worked his way up to become Boatswain's Mate First Class. He received training for two months at the Great Lakes Training Station and then went out to sea. During the four years he served he was home but once and that was on a twenty day leave in September 1944.

The ship on which he served was one of three United States destroyers which slipped out through the channel opening and escaped to sea during the Pearl Harbor attack and united with the British and Dutch naval forces in an attempt to stop the Japanese drive for Australia.

To a reporter for the Kalamazoo Gazette he is quoted as saying:

"We headed straight for the Marshall and Gilberts until word reached us from Wake to turn back for the whole Jap fleet was coming to meet us."

In spite of the appalling odds against them, after what they had seen and gone through a few days before at Pearl Harbor, members of this gallant little United States task force were all for tackling the on-coming Jap fleet anyway, said Robert.

"It wasn't easy for any of us to forget how the Japs had laughed and thumbed their noses at us from their cockpits the morning of the Pearl Harbor attack."

After joining the British and Dutch naval forces came first the one-sided Coral and Java sea battles during which he saw the Allies lose twelve of their warships. Serving with the task force of the United States carrier Enterprise, he watched that mighty flat-top go down under the merciless pounding of enemy naval guns and air bombardments.

Then it was on to the battle of Midway Island where a mere handful of American warships unhesitatingly attacked a great Jap fleet concentration and turned what looked like certain defeat into one of the glorious United States naval victories of all time. But that time it cost his task force the loss of their great carrier the Yorktown after he had gone aboard it with crews from three other destroyers in a vain attempt to help her crew to save her from sinking.

Then followed the naval battles of the Solomons campaign and then they were off for the far-away Aleutians and Kiska and Attu. There his task force was credited with sixteen more bombardments and the sinking of the 3,300-ton Jap troop-carrying submarine in Kiska harbor after United States ground forces had taken Attu.

While in patrol duty in the Bering sea, he was with his destroyer in the sea battle of Kromandorskie Islands off the Russian coast, when two opposing Jap-U. S. task forces of cruisers and destroyers fought at a range of 10,000 yards for three hours and fifty minutes . . an all-time record for naval battles at the time.

Following this engagement in which Nichols' destroyer escaped with minor damage, they returned south again to participate in the Marshalls and the Gilberts campaigns and finally the more recent Central Pacific naval operations.

Robert's destroyer downed another submarine of the enemy while serving with the carrier Yorktown off Midway, one more during the Gilbert Islands campaign and two more while serving on sub-patrol duty in the Solomons area.

Their first kill . . the Jap two-man sub, which they rammed to the bottom of Pearl Harbor . .

was officially recorded as the first Jap submarine sinking of World War II by an United States warship.

Included in the long list of shore bombardments in which Robert's destroyer participated were shellings against Kiska and Attu in the Aleutians, Tarawa in the Gilberts, Kwajalien in the Marshalls, Bougainville, Yap, Palau, Rabaul, Truk, Saipan and Guam. In most instances his destroyer returned later to cover American troop landings following pre-invasion shellings.

Boatswain's Mate Nichols was awarded bronze campaign stars for Pearl Harbor, the Coral Sea, Midway, the Aleutians, Marshall and Gilberts, and the naval operations against Saipan and Guam.

Birth and Education

Robert Jasper Nichols was born in South Bend, Indiana, August 8, 1920, son of Beachler W. Nichols, who was born in Ohio May 10, 1902, and Jeanette Extance Nichols, who was born in Schoolcraft, Michigan, April 12, 1901, of English, Dutch and French ancestry. Beachler Nichols was of Scotch-Irish descent. They were married September 8, 1919, and also became the parents of:

Richard, who was born February 4, 1922, married Esther Haring, has one son born May 29, 1940, served in the United States Navy nearly two years and resides now, in 1946, in Comstock, Michigan;

Nancy Ann, who was born March 19, 1924, married Gordon McIntyre, has one son born September 11, 1944, and lives in Comstock, Michigan; and

Paul, born August 11, 1926, married June Westcott, is serving in the Army Air Corps at Selfridge Field.

Robert, "Bob" to his friends, started to school in Comstock, Michigan. Later the family moved to Oakwood and he attended there for three years. Another move of the family placed him in the Roosevelt School, after which he went to Central High School. While in high school he was employed as a delivery boy by the Postal Telegraph Company.

He then spent over a year in Civilian Conservation Camp Wilson, thirty miles from Cadillac, Michigan, and enlisted in the United States Navy and was assigned to the USS Monaghan, a destroyer on which he remained until his death.

Robert's father under Civil Service went to Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, December 15, 1944, and is still at work there at this time.

Personal Characteristics

Bob liked good clean sports. Swimming was a major diversion. Ball games, shows and anything for entertainment, exercise and fun interested him. He liked to read sport magazines, newspapers and

other good material. His life was interesting, full of adventure, work and friendships.

One interesting coincidence in Robert's life was that he was born on the 8th day of the 8th month at 8 A. M. and weighed 8 pounds. Another is that his ship went down on his grandfather's 70th birthday.

Bob was five feet five and one-half inches tall, of robust build and had blond hair and gray eyes. He had no bad habits and liked everybody. That made him popular. He was just in his estimate of others, charitable, saw the good points in others and was not given to finding fault.

He showed a special tenderness for his only sister, Nancy, and their love for each other was precious to them both.

His engagement to Lois Reimann of Oak Park, Illinois, had been published by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reimann.

Robert and his sister and brothers attended the Salvation Army Sunday school and services and their conduct showed they had profited by the training they received there and at home.

Robert Jasper Nichols played a man's part in World War II and he laid down his life for his country.

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Mr. & Mrs. John Henry Noble



J O H N H E N R Y N O B L E

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John Henry Noble was born in Finland June 24, 1889. Being one of a large family, he early learned the necessity of earning his own living and at the age of thirteen he left home to work and eventually emigrated to Canada, where he found employment mining. Later he came to the United States, where he was joined by his parents and his brothers and sisters.

His first employment here was on construction work and while in the East he became acquainted with Mr. Ralph Hayward, who later became President of the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company. In 1923, Mr. Noble, through the influence of Mr. Hayward, came to work for that company and became a heating, piping and ventilating expert. Later he worked in the maintenance department.

He was of an inventive turn of mind and was never happier than when engaged in mechanical construction. He designed an oil-burning furnace for which he secured a patent.

June 15, 1929, he was married to Miss Corinne

L. Carlson, daughter of Carl A. and Freda G. Carlson, natives of Sweden, the Reverend Harry Walker, performing the ceremony.

Mr. Noble was a member of the Loyal Order of Moose. He enjoyed reading the best in literature and being of a serious mind his reading was of an instructive nature rather than for pure entertainment. He was a devoted member of the Community Methodist Church in Parchment and was active as a member of the Men's Club of that church.

In personal appearance he was tall, possibly five feet eleven inches and his average weight was about one hundred seventy-five pounds and had brown hair and eyes.

For some years Mr. Noble gradually failed in health until it became necessary to have an operation. From this he rallied but in 1942 another operation became necessary, for which he did not possess sufficient strength to recover and he slipped away from this life June 16, 1942.

His alert mind, efficiency as a worker, devotion to his home and his books and his love and interest for the church won him the esteem of all.

Dr. V. W. Thrall conducted the funeral and burial was in Riverside cemetery.



Platnick

E D W A R D J O S E P H N O O K M D

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In appearance, Dr. Nook was a man of medium height, dark complexioned, with brown hair and weighed about one hundred and fifty pounds. His most pronounced physical characteristic were his keen dark eyes which impressed the visitor with his sympathy and understanding.

Doctor Nook died after a very short illness on May 22, 1937. He was in his thirty-fifth year and already had achieved an enviable position in the ranks of his chosen profession and in the esteem of the public in general. The City Commissioners said of him:

"He was wholly devoted to his work. Perfectly reliable and trustworthy, he could be depended upon at all times to be fair, both with the City and his patients. His rare quality of professional skill, coupled with his very human understanding, rendered him of great value to the City. Though his time was divided between his own work and his City work, neither suffered at the expense of the other. He was honest in his opinions and dependable in his judgments."

Like others who achieve success, his life was a verification of the old adage, "There is no royal road to learning." Dr. Nook was of humble origin. The youngest of seven children whose parents emigrated

to this country from Baden, Germany, he knew adversity from the time of his youth. These things enriched his character by giving him a most complete understanding of human adversity and its purposes. No patient ever sought his guidance and help that did not feel instinctively that here was a man who knows and cares.

Edward was born in Kalamazoo, August 5th, 1902, in a modest dwelling on North Edwards street. His father died when Edward was two years of age, and his mother died seven years later. Owing to straightened circumstances, and the youth of the children, the family home was broken up and Edward went to live on a farm near Fenton, Michigan. He resided there until he finished his high school course. While in Fenton, he was a member of the family of E. Donner, a respected citizen of that community.

After the completion of his high school course, Edward was thrown on his own resources and came to Kalamazoo to enter the employ of the late John H. Ryan, President of the Kalamazoo Laundry Company. Something about the young man impressed Mr. Ryan and he suggested that Edward should fit himself for his life work as a physician.

Acting upon the advice and counsel of his older friend, Edward entered the University of Michigan in

the fall of 1923. He was graduated from the Literary Department with the degree of B. S. in June 1928. Two years later he received from his Alma Mater the degree of M. D.

Like the other members of his family, Edward had been born of Catholic parents, reared in a Catholic atmosphere and remained a staunch son of the church till the day of his death.

While in school at Ann Arbor, Edward met Mary Ann McNamara, a graduate of the same University, who was doing laboratory and research work for Dr. R. L. Kahn. These two were married in St. Mary's chapel, Ann Arbor, on June 23rd, 1930. They are the parents of Mary Jane, born May 16, 1933, and Marjory Ann, born March 20, 1936.

After receiving the degree of M. D. there followed a year as Interne at Toledo General Hospital. He devoted another year to his further medical and surgical training at Lucas County Hospital, Toledo, Ohio. While interning at Toledo, Dr. Nook became First Lieutenant in the Medical Reserve Officers organization.

Following this preparation, Dr. Nook came to Kalamazoo in July, 1932, and opened offices in the State Theatre Building on South Burdick street. The

years of the depression had severely taxed the resources of the ordinary man and city medical work was at its full tide. For the first time an assistant city physician became necessary and Dr. Nook took the office because of the unusual opportunity it afforded to relieve the poor. The office of assistant city physician was abolished October 1, 1934, and Dr. Nook was made City Physician and continued in that office until his death.

Though importuned by friends to drop the city practice because of the excessive demands made upon his time by his own growing practice, he could never turn a deaf ear to the night call of any poor family in distress.

His whole interest in life centered upon his patients and upon his family. He regarded the profession which he had chosen as something to be shared with the unfortunate and poor rather than as a means to making a livelihood.

Dr. Nook had a wood working shop in his home and enjoyed wood turning and other wood working activities. He was also fond of gardening and made a hobby of growing dahlias and gladiolas. He was a member of the University of Michigan Kalamazoo Alumni Association. He was also a member of the

Kalamazoo Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Nook was buried from St. Augustine Church, where he was baptized as an infant, taught as a boy and later worshipped as a man. His remains were consigned to Mt. Olivet Cemetery where, as a boy, he had followed the remains of his mother.

Written December 17, 1937.

Lawrence Joseph Nook



L A W R E N C E J O S E P H N O O K

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Lawrence Joseph Nook was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 10, 1890, son of Lawrence and Katherine Bierek Nook of German descent, both parents coming from Germany. Lawrence Joseph was educated in the La Fevre Institute, now St. Augustine.

In 1904, when Lawrence Joseph was fourteen years of age, he started to work for the Inventors Manufacturers on Lovell street; during 1905 and 1906 he worked for Henderson and Ames; from 1907 to 1910 he was employed by the Shutts Plating Works in Manufacturers Square.

In 1910, the Wigginton Company bought the Shutts Plating Works and moved to 326 Eleanor street. In 1911, they moved to the Loose-Leaf Binder Company and in 1919 there was another move to 434 North Church street, Mr. Nook continuing in the employ of the company.

In April 1932, Mr. Nook bought out the Wigginton company and changed the name to the Kalamazoo Plating Works. The plant continued to operate at 434 North Church street until 1940, when

it was moved to 436 West Willard street where the business is located at the time of this writing in 1941.

Mr. Nook was also a partner in the Battle Creek Plating Works, located at 436 South Kendall street, Battle Creek, Michigan, which plant began operation January 1, 1940.

November 24, 1916, he was married to Sophia Katherine Hook in St. Augustine's Church. She was born in Kalamazoo and attended the same school and grew up in the same neighborhood with Mr. Nook. She is the daughter of Gerhard and Sophia Leopold Hook.

Mr. and Mrs. Nook became the parents of: Marie Louise, Barbara Katherine and Lawrence Joseph, Jr., the daughters residing with their mother and the son a student at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana.

Mr. Nook was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Small Business Men's Association, a charter member of the American Electro-Plater Society, belonged to the A. A. A., and the B. P. O. E.

He was also a member of St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church and took a very active part in its work. He belonged to the Holy Name Society, the

Catholic Athletic Association and was a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Nook did much in the promoting of the production of chromium and had worked out his own solution. He also patented a buffing wheel which made use of cloth and paper. His advice was sought by the firms who patronized him as to improvements in their equipment.

He was active in promoting the interests of the Community Chest and supported other civic and welfare movements. He was to have been made a member of the Rotary Club the Tuesday following his death.

In personal appearance he was about five feet seven inches tall, weighed about one hundred sixty-five pounds, with brown hair streaked with gray, and blue eyes. For recreation he played golf a little.

He had loads of friends over the country - in New York, Chicago, Detroit, Lansing and other cities as well as in Kalamazoo.

Death came to Mr. Nook Sunday, December 30, 1940, in Borgess Hospital, resulting from a blood clot near the heart. He was stricken Sunday morning while attending mass in St. Augustine's

Church. His sudden death came at a time when he was about to realize his greatest success in business and in the midst of the construction of the new home at Richland.

The funeral was conducted by Monsignor John R. Hackett and burial was in Mt. Olivet cemetery. The bearers were: Otto Kihm, Ted McHugh, Foster Herman, James Murray, Joseph Stall and Stanley Frost.

James Francis Noone



J A M E S F R A N C I S N O O N E

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James Francis Noone was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, September 14, 1914, a son of James and Anna Riley Noone. The father of James Francis was born in Washtenaw county, Michigan, September 20, 1866, son of Patrick and Margaret Noone, and died December 27, 1941. Patrick and Margaret Noone came to this country from Ireland. Anna Riley was born in Tecumseh, Michigan, September 2, 1876, a daughter of James and Ann Mooney Riley, who also came from Ireland.

James Francis Noone had two brothers and one sister:

Edward Joseph, born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, June 23, 1908, married Lola Brundage and became the father of Marilyn, Elaine and Donna;

Donald Clare, born August 23, 1910, married Myrtis Milley, and at the time of this writing in 1943, is a soldier in the United States Army, stationed at Camp Beale, California;

Patricia, born June 9, 1921, is at home in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

James Francis Noone was graduated from St. Augustine High School in 1932, where he was

active in athletics. He was employed by the Miller Seed Company and the A. W. Walsh Company; at the time of his induction into the United States Army March 23, 1942, he was manager of Irwin's Incorporated in Battle Creek, Michigan.

James Francis Noone was assigned for his basic training for the Armored Engineers to Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, where he remained until the last of July 1942, when he was sent to Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He was graduated October 28, 1942, and received his commission as Second Lieutenant. He was then sent to Camp Cooke, California, and was on duty there until a short time before his death, when he was sent to Camp Forest, Tennessee, for maneuvers. He was a specialist in various demolition practices in warfare and was injured in a mine explosion as a result of which he died in a Station Hospital at Camp Forest, Friday, April 9, 1943.

Short services were conducted in a post chapel at Camp Forest, attended by one hundred thirty men of Company A of which Lieutenant Noone was a member, with Mrs. James F. Noone, Sr., and Edward Noone, mother and brother of the deceased in attendance. The mother and brother returned with the body to Kalamazoo the following Monday.

A military funeral was held at ten o'clock in the forenoon of Wednesday April 14, from St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church. The remains arrived in Kalamazoo early the previous Monday, under the military escort of Lieutenant Kerwin, friend of Lieutenant Noone since the time he entered the army in March, 1942. Burial was in Mt. Olivet cemetery at the side of his father.

The Reverend R. R. Dunigan was celebrant of the Requiem High Mass, Father R. P. Taffee was deacon and Father Michael Cassidey, Dowagiac, sub-deacon.

A military guard of honor was present at the services.

A guard of nine soldiers sounded taps and fired the volley at the services at Mt. Olivet.

In personal appearance Lieutenant Noone was five feet six inches tall and weighed about one hundred seventy pounds, with brown hair and hazel eyes.

He enjoyed playing golf and was fond of music. He was a great reader and a good student.

Lieutenant James Francis Noone was a devout member of St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church and exemplified the teachings of his church in his daily conduct as is attested by the following copy of a

letter received by his mother:

HEADQUARTERS 5th ARMORED DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

April 9, 1943

Mrs. Anna R. Noone,
534 Horace Ave.,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Dear Mrs. Noone;

It is with the deepest regret that I learn of the untimely death of your son, Second Lieutenant James Francis Noone, 22nd Armored Engineer Battalion, an officer of this command. It may be of some comfort to you to know that Lieutenant Noone was held in high regard by all members of this command. His friends were numerous and these companions will miss him very much.

During the time that Lieutenant Noone was in the Army he obeyed orders cheerfully, performed all duties in a very satisfactory manner, and demonstrated outstanding ability in many ways. He was an excellent officer, and a definite asset to this Division.

The officers and men of this command join me in expressing heartfelt sympathy in your bereavement.

Lunsford E. Oliver,

Maj. Gen., U. S. Army,

Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS
85TH ARMORED RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION
Camp Cooke, California

27 February 1943

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : LT JAMES F. NOONE
22nd Armored Engineer Battalion
Camp Cooke, California.

I wish to take this opportunity to commend you for the capable instruction which you gave to the officers and non-commissioned officers of this battalion in demolition and explosives.

The course was thorough in scope and well planned and showed a thorough knowledge on your part of the subject.

A knowledge of explosives and demolitions is vital to any member of a reconnaissance battalion in performing his primary mission.

The results of your instruction will be well used.

G. W. WEST
Lt Col, 85th Armd Ren Bn
Commanding

G. L. Norcross.



D. S. Kovercross

G A R C I A L O U I S N O R C R O S S

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GARCIA LOUIS NORCROSS was born March 4, 1869, son of Rachel Luella Harrod and William Cousins Norcross. The mother, Rachel Luella Harrod, was born in Henry County, Ohio, and was said to be related to General Robert E. Lee.

G. L. Norcross came to Muskegon County, Michigan, in his youth and attended the public schools and later was a student in Ferris Institute, Big Rapids, Michigan, where he was one of the first to receive a Normal Diploma. In 1899 he received the degree of Bachelor of Pedagogy from Mt. Hope College.

On account of an accident in which he lost his right hand Mr. Norcross decided to enter educational work and began by teaching a rural school. He received his life certificate for teaching from the state of Michigan in 1898. During summer vacations he attended summer terms at the University of Chicago.

At one time Mr. Norcross taught at Chippewa Lake and at another time at Holton, Michigan. After graduation from Ferris Institute, Mr. Norcross became Superintendent of schools at Lake City, Michigan.

That was in 1896-97. Then he became Superintendent of schools at National Mines at Ishpeming, Michigan. He held that position for four years. He was also at one time Superintendent of a township unit system of schools. From 1901 to 1905 he was Principal of the John Erickson School in Superior, Wisconsin.

Mr. G. L. Norcross came to Kalamazoo in 1905 and for a short time engaged in business. In the fall of 1906 he became Principal of the Frank Street School, and in 1907 was transferred to the Vine Street School where he remained until 1936 when he resigned to become Visiting Teacher and Boy Advisor.

Mr. Norcross is fond of nature study and is familiar with the birds and trees of Michigan. He also enjoys fishing.

Mr. Norcross joined the fraternal order of Odd Fellows in 1896 and is a loyal member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church. He is much interested in young people and his work with boys is outstanding.

August 14, 1894, Garcia L. Norcross married Harriet Elizabeth Burtch. To them were born seven children: Gertrude Lucile, who married Walter Hirschy, deceased because of an automobile accident; Louis Wendel, who married Irene Leger and resides in France; George Arthur, who resides with his parents at 2614 Alamo Avenue, Kalamazoo and is married to Helen Ise-

man; Frances I., who married Harry Williams and resides on Miles Avenue, Kalamazoo; Mary E., who married Herman Queerbach and resides on Mt. Olivet road, Kalamazoo; Harriet R., who married Chester Hippensteel; and Anna Ruth, who is at home with her parents.

The following letter written by one of the boys whom Mr. Norcross befriended shows something of the influence he has had with the young people with whom he has worked:

"Dear Mr. Norcross: Somehow I'd like to let you know about how I feel toward you, before you leave Vine School.

"Both you and I know what a struggle I've had with myself to get started into and finish Junior High School in any acceptable manner. Truly I am trying to learn to co-operate with my teachers although you may hardly believe that.

"I certainly shall never forget the talks we have had, and I should like to have you know that it is because of your encouragement and help that I am in school, and doing as well as I am. I hope that when I get over to Central we will meet again, and that you will find that I am doing a better job at controlling myself."

This was written in 1936.

1875
The first of the year was a very successful one for the
company. The sales were very good and the profits were
very high. The company was very fortunate in having
such a good start to the year. The sales were very good
and the profits were very high. The company was very
fortunate in having such a good start to the year.

The second of the year was also a very successful one for the
company. The sales were very good and the profits were
very high. The company was very fortunate in having
such a good start to the year. The sales were very good
and the profits were very high. The company was very
fortunate in having such a good start to the year.

Yours very truly,
J. H. H. H.



Sherman B. Morcross

S H E R M A N B N O R C R O S S

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Sherman Birdell Norcross was born in Wood County, Ohio, August 13, 1866. His father, William C. Norcross, was born in the same county in 1837 and married Rachel Lee Harrod in 1859. She was a cousin of the famous Lee family of Virginia. The family moved to Michigan in 1882.

Sherman B. Norcross taught his first term of school in 1885 in Newaygo County and received as compensation \$28 per month.

As lumbering offered a better opportunity Sherman Norcross spent the next six years as lumber inspector and when he quit the lumber business to attend school he was considered one of the best inspectors in the state.

After Mr. Norcross had completed his commercial course he was book-keeper for a large lumber concern for three years. He then returned to college and prepared himself for commercial teaching and his first position was in the high school of Ishpeming, Michigan where he organized the Commercial Department in 1896. This same year, 1896, he married Gertrude B. Hafey of Big Rapids, Michigan.

In 1898 Sherman B. Norcross was placed at the head of the Commercial Department of the Ferris Institute in Big Rapids, Michigan, where he remained for ten years.

In 1909, S. O. Hartwell, Superintendent of Schools in Kalamazoo, asked Mr. Norcross to come to Kalamazoo and take charge of the new business courses of the public schools. The Department was started with twenty students and one type-writer. At the time of this writing, 1936, there are more than 1500 students taking commercial subjects and more than 200 type-writers in the Central High School.

The principal reason for giving up the business position for teaching was that his mother wanted all her four sons to be Methodist preachers. Her desire was met to the extent that two sons became Methodist ministers and two became teachers.

Mr. Norcross was brought up in the Methodist Church. His father was an active member of that Church and a Class Leader for many years. For forty years Sherman B. Norcross has served the Church in various ways, as official member, Superintendent of the Sunday School or as teacher of a class.

He has always enjoyed good health and his

principal recreation was hiking, bowling, and volley ball.

Mr. Norcross was a member of the National, State and Local teachers organizations, holding offices and appearing on the programs. For twelve years, by appointment of the governor, he was State inspector of private business schools and did much to raise the standards of the schools in Michigan.

Mr. Norcross developed the unified financial system in use at Kalamazoo Central and was school treasurer. He won the respect and admiration of a host of students and colleagues and guided many young people in selecting their vocations. It was to this activity that his son Carl referred in the dedication of his book on acquiring a job in aviation "To my father from whose wise vocational advice many young men have profited." He retired in 1939.

Mr. Norcross was the father of: Louise, wife of Dr. John Colman, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio; Gertrude, director of the Society for Crippled Children, Hartford, Connecticut; Charles of Chicago, Illinois; and Carl, Captain in the U. S. army air corps.

Death came to Mr. Norcross at Long Beach, California, Wednesday, February 4, 1942.



N O R T H P A R K
R E F O R M E D C H U R C H

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In the spring of 1908, following a revival in the Second Reformed Church of Kalamazoo, plans were made to organize a North Reformed Church Mission at the corner of Park and Patterson Streets. Upon recommendation of the Second Reformed Church, The Board of Domestic Missions, R. C. A., bought the lots on which the present buildings stand, and erected the initial building which is now a part of the new church structure.

In the fall of that same year, 1908, Reverend G. Hondelink, then a returned missionary from Japan, was asked to take charge of this North Mission. Under his direction interest grew so rapidly that in March, 1909, it was decided to organize the mission into a church. Twenty-three members constituted the newly organized church, incorporated under the name of the North Park Street Reformed Church. Its first consistory consisted of six members: elders, J. Van Daff, O. Herder, and William Sommers; deacons J. Corstange, J. Wolcott and J. Sliter. The minutes of the first consistory meeting, held April 19,

1909, contain a very interesting record of events, to wit: - Various committees chosen; women members allowed to vote; first communion set purchased; hitching post ordered placed on the Park street side; and the decision to call a pastor. Reverend G. Hondelink was then unanimously called to become the first Pastor of the church,

As early as January of 1912 plans were made to build a parsonage, but the lot was considered too small for both church and parsonage buildings. In May, 1912, Reverend G. Hondelink accepted a call to the Second Reformed Church of Muskegon, Michigan. A year later, June 24, 1913, Reverend R. Bloemendal became the pastor. During his ministry, in the fall of 1913, the present parsonage was erected. In August, 1915, Reverend R. Bloemendal accepted a call to become Classical missionary of the Michigan Classis. On June 16, 1916, Reverend R. Vanden Berg was installed as pastor. He remained until April 14, 1919, when he began his ministerial duties in the Second Reformed Church of Englewood, Illinois. The Reverend R. D. Meengs was called to take up the work in June, 1920.

In September, 1921, plans were made to erect a new church building. Because of financial diffi-

culties these plans were not carried out until the summer of 1922. August 27th, 1922, Sunday services were held for the last time in the memorable old church, cherished by many as their spiritual home, and representing active Christian work for fourteen years. Dedication services of the present church building took place on the evening of April 5th, 1923. The church has made rapid, interesting history and we hope she will continue "To extend her borders and enlarge her tents."

In September, 1925, Reverend R. D. Meengs accepted a call from the Hope Reformed Church of Detroit, Michigan. Reverend D. D. Ellerbrook served as pastor from March 1926 to April 1929. The Reverend A. J. Te Paske became pastor on October 17, 1929.

At the time of this writing, March 15, 1937, the consistory consists of the following members: elders, Timothy Santinga, John Ver West, Garret Buckhout and Isaac Vermeulen; deacons, John De Young, Marinus Wiessner, Richard Loher and Frank Mastenbroek.

North Presbyterian Church

North Presbyterian Church



THE NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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The North Presbyterian Church had its beginning in the woods at the foot of Mt. Holyoke on the east side of Kalamazoo the second Sunday in June, 1864, when four girls about fourteen years of age gathered a group of children and conducted a Sunday school. The four girls were Bertha Hilbert, Ada Haley, Helen Reid and Eliza L. Valentine.

The Civil War was on at the time and some soldiers on one occasion amused themselves by driving cows toward the Sunday school while in session. The girls stood their ground and proceeded with their work. They belonged to the Sunday school of the First Presbyterian Church and borrowed song books from the superintendent of the Sunday school, Mr. D. O. Roberts, who gave many years of service to the development of the North Presbyterian Church. He not only gave of his own time and strength but also secured the co-operation and financial assistance of others. At the beginning the work was referred to as "the work in the

forest" and later as the "Mission in the Woods."

When winter set in the "Mission" took shelter in the Red Schoolhouse located on Trowbridge street between East Ransom street and East North street. The work was so well supported under the leadership of such men as Mr. Frank S. Hillhouse, Mr. S. H. Trask and Mr. Roberts that the schoolhouse would not hold all who came and the adults were requested to remain outside so that there would be room for the children and later all who resided south of the Michigan Central railway tracks were forbidden to come.

In two years the schoolhouse had become inadequate and in the spring of 1866 the present site of the North Presbyterian Church was secured and upon it was erected the Mission Woods Chapel, at a cost of \$2582.00, the first \$815.00 subscribed by twenty-four men. Mr. Joseph Fry dug the cellar with his team as his contribution and Jacob Sliter hauled the stone for the building.

Two lots had been purchased for \$600.00 and later the lot to the north was sold for \$600.00.

The following is the description of the building by Mr. Roberts:

"The entrance in front was by a double gate

through a high board fence and two narrow flights of stairs, one leading to each door at the east end of the building. One on the south leading to the main room and one on the north leading to the Bible class room. Uncarpeted floors, unpapered walls, a tall sheet-iron stove, wooden settees, a small cabinet organ, kerosene lamps are some of the landmarks."

The chapel was dedicated in August, 1866, at which time the Reverend Samuel Fisher Wishard of Mt. Pleasant preached the sermon from 2 Chronicles 14:11: "In thy name we go against this multitude."

Among those who assisted in promoting the work, in addition to those already mentioned, were Mr. S. W. Faxton and Miss Mary Clark. A memorial window in the present church auditorium is named for the latter.

For ten years after the erection of the Chapel only the Sunday school was held. April 1, 1876, is the date of a subscription paper circulated for the purpose of paying the salary of a preacher and \$265 was raised and Reverend E. B. Sherwood was secured to preach. One means for raising money was to charter excursion trains to Lansing, Grand Haven and South Haven, netting from \$78.90 to \$450.00.

A petition was presented to the Kalamazoo Presbytery requesting that a religious society be organized to be known as the North Presbyterian

Church of Kalamazoo. It was signed by D. O. Roberts, E. H. Clark, H. J. Howard, J. S. Thomas, J. G. Ketchum and S. N. Hicks. It was dated March 6, 1878.

The Kalamazoo Presbytery met in the Mission Woods Chapel, March 13, 1878, and organized the North Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo, Michigan, with thirty-nine charter members and elected Mr. D. O. Roberts, Mr. J. G. Ketchum, Mr. E. H. Clark and Mr. S. N. Hicks as the first ruling elders.

Within six months after the organization of the church an addition was made to the building and the older parts were papered and painted at an expense of \$1,000.00. The building was remodelled in 1905 with concrete blocks and in 1906 fire destroyed the interior. In replacing the gutted portion some of the burned beams were not removed and weakened the structure so that in 1918 the city condemned the building.

This necessitated the construction of the present edifice at a cost of \$15,000.00, which was dedicated in September, 1920, made possible by a loan from the Presbyterian Board of Church Erection of \$3800.00.

At one time, according to one of the pastors

who served the church, Francis Z. Rossiter, "the old Sunday school of four hundred met at 2:30 P. M., and the church Sunday school of three hundred . . met at 12." In 1908 the membership of the church was a little less than one hundred and twenty five and of the Sunday school approximately 200.

The following is the list of pastors who have served the church: E. B. Sherwood, Missionary 1876; Mr. Earland, Missionary, John Anderson, Francis Z. Rossiter, 1884-1889; Edward Warren, J. Emory Fisher, Edgar Buchanan, James Kirklan, Watson Young, 1903, George D. Adamson, U. Lincoln Montgomery, 1907-1916; Washington R. Burton, 1916-1918; Emmanuel Rushbrook, Supply Preacher, 1918-1920; Gordon C. Spear, 1920-1926; Joseph Hill Coulter, 1926-1928; John Caldwell, July, 1928 to the present writing 1939.

The following is the list of Superintendents of the Sunday school: B. Kain, Frank Hillhouse, 1865-1870; Daniel O. Roberts, 1870-1888; David Hoedemaker, Louis Kornmann, Samuel Ketchum, Fulton Garrison, James J. Loughhead, George R. Turner, Yetsie Beimer, Harry H. Goligher, who has served for thirty-five years and has done splendid work and in 1937 was moderator of the Kalamazoo Presbytery.

(Sponsored by Mrs. Harriet Larch)

C H A R L E S E N O R T O N

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Charles E. Norton was born in Milan, Michigan, August 13, 1863. While yet a boy he went to Toledo, Ohio, to live.

When a young man, Mr. Norton entered the light house service on the Great Lakes and served about eleven years.

Mr. Norton had one brother, Frederick Norton, who, at the time of this writing, 1939, resides in Tampa, Florida. He had one sister, Cornelia, who married William Wodach and is deceased.

The following is written from some notes made by Mr. Norton a short time before his death:

"I came to Gull Lake in 1904 to see a boat.

I have won a good many prizes and flags at Toledo and on Gull Lake. I have won the Hurst Trophy, the Fair Trophy, the Rosenbaum Trophy and many others.

I liked the looks of Gull Lake, so I went into the passenger business. The first people I carried came in on the C. J. and M. steam road. It ran from Toledo to Allegan.

"At one time there were sixteen boats carrying passengers on Gull Lake. Later the automobiles came and the steam and electric roads were discontinued.

"Gull Lake had a wonderful growth and now there are cottages all around the lake. There are two golf courses and a large Yacht Club on the lake and some of the homes cost a lot of money. This lake has very clear water and is fed by springs and the water never gets very low. In places it is one hundred feet deep."

For years Mr. Norton had been a familiar figure around Gull Lake and was commonly known by his many friends as "Captain Norton." For more than twenty years he carried passengers with his "Brownie" and would relate to his interested passengers incidents concerning the estates around the shore and the people who owned them. He was a kindly quiet man and was highly respected by all who knew him.

For a number of winters he and Mrs. Norton had gone to Florida and then returned to conduct their business at the lake during the summer.

Mrs. Norton was Mrs. Waldorf prior to her

marriage to Captain Norton December 22, 1921.

They made a good business team. The Captain would carry passengers around the lake and Mrs. Norton would feed them at the restaurant which she conducted.

In the fall of 1938 Mr. and Mrs. Norton went to Lake Worth, Florida, intending to spend the winter as usual, but the Captain was taken ill and died February 4th, 1939. The funeral was held in the Yorkville Church February 12, 1939, and burial was in the Yorkville cemetery. The funeral service was conducted by the Reverend R. E. Meader.

Oakwood Undenominational Church



Oakwood Missionary Church



T H E O A K W O O D
U N D E N O M I N A T I O N A L C H U R C H
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The Oakwood Undenominational Church had its beginning in 1915 when a group of Oakwood residents held Sunday school in the Oakwood school building, which later was purchased and moved to 2517 Amherst street in Oakwood on a lot purchased and donated by Mr. John Hinga, who, with workers from the Second Reformed Church in Kalamazoo, taught the Sunday school classes for a number of years.

In 1927, the Reverend D. D. King was pastor of the Methodist Church in Oshtemo and also conducted services in the Oakwood Undenominational Church. As there was quite a group of Methodists living in Oakwood an attempt was made to make the organization Methodist, but this was not acceptable to many of the people. As a result the Methodists organized a church of their own and the Undenominational Church continued to function as such.

In 1928, the Reverend O. H. Gerstenkorn was called as pastor and served for six months, when he resigned to take up work in Kalamazoo. The church

was then without a pastor until the fall of 1929, when the Reverend Henry Kooi was called to take up the shepherd's staff.

Morning and evening services have been conducted by the pastor until the time of this writing in 1941, a period of twelve years. Formerly the Sunday school was held in the afternoon, but for some time has been held in the forenoon on Sunday.

The Lord has been mindful of His work and it has grown. The church building has been enlarged, a new heating system has been installed with air conditioning and an up-to-date plumbing equipment, new class rooms, new pews throughout, and a new power organ has been purchased in memory of the pastor's wife, Agnes Lemmer Kooi, who with her husband had the pleasure of being used of God in this ministry and was called home to be with her Lord October 8, 1940.

Among the first to engage in this work were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Beckwith. He has gone to his reward, but Mrs. Beckwith is still in fellowship with this church.

Pastor Kooi says: "Peace and harmony are in our midst. Praise and prayer services are conducted Wednesday afternoon and evening of each week

and two missionaries are supported by the Sunday school, one in our home land and one in the foreign field."



G A L E N W A R R E N O ' B R I E N

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Galen Warren O'Brien, the son of Jesse Edward O'Brien and Isabel White O'Brien, was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, December 3, 1919.

Galen's Father

Jesse O'Brien was born in Fort Ann, state of New York, March 12, 1881, the son of Edward James O'Brien of the state of New York, and Carrie Ellen Jones O'Brien, a native of St. Joseph, Michigan. The parents of Carrie Ellen Jones and their family moved from Michigan to New York City shortly after the Civil War and there she was married to Edward James O'Brien.

In 1885, Mr. and Mrs. Edward James O'Brien came to Lawton, Michigan, bringing with them two small sons, Jesse and Guy. A daughter, Minnie, was born to them in Michigan.

Jesse O'Brien lived in Lawton until he was nineteen years of age and then went to Dowagiac, Michigan, to work for the next three years; from 1903 until 1907, he lived in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and from 1907 until 1914 he was in Chicago, Illinois. He

then spent several years in Toronto, Canada, and returned to Kalamazoo, Michigan, in August, 1919.

On February 8, 1919, Jesse O'Brien was married to Isabel White.

Galen's Mother

Isabel White was born March 14, 1896, in Donaghadee, County Down, Ireland, daughter of William and Sarah McDowell White. Isabel was the ninth in a family of ten children, the others being Mary, John, Elizabeth, Harry, Andrew, William, Alice, and one who died in infancy, and Jennie. Of these brothers and sisters, three remained with the parents in Ireland and the rest emigrated to Canada. Three came on into the United States. At the time of this writing in 1943 John is deceased, but all the other brothers and sisters are living.

Isabel White came to Toronto, Canada, in 1914 and the next year came to live with her sister in Chicago, Illinois, where she remained for a year and then returned to Toronto.

In 1920, Galen was taken by his mother back to Ireland to visit her people. While there his sister Lorraine Jean was born December 15, 1920, and died four months later.

Galen's Education

He attended the Woodward Avenue and Central

High Schools in Kalamazoo, leaving the latter in his senior year to work for the Checker Cab Company.

Galen's Marriage

He was married July 5, 1941, to Vera Hazel Shrauger, who was born August 31, 1922, in New Mexico, the daughter of John M. Shrauger, who was born in Vicksburg, Michigan, May 20, 1881. Vera's mother was Eva L. Knapp, who was born in Decatur, Michigan, March 24, 1886. Vera had one half brother and two half sisters: Percy Marlette, Florence Marlette and Dorothy Marlette; and one own brother and two own sisters, Thelma, Maurice and Virginia.

GALEN ENLISTS

On September 6, 1941, Galen O'Brien enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force in Windsor, Canada, and was sent to Winnipeg, Manitoba, for training. On May 30, 1942, he was transferred to the United States Army Air Corps and sent to Santa Ana, California, and from there to Luke Field, Phoenix, Arizona, where he was graduated and received his wings January 4, 1943. He was then granted a ten day furlough and came home to his wife and baby daughter, Judith Ann, who was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 4, 1942.

Lieutenant Galen O'Brien returned to his post, was transferred to St. Petersburg, Florida, and from

there was sent overseas and stationed at Oran, North Africa. He was assigned to fly a P 40 at first. Later, while trying to make a forced landing with a Spitfire at Cape Bon, Tunisia, Lieutenant Galen O'Brien lost his life May 24, 1943.

Personal Appearance

He was five feet nine inches in height, with dark hair and brown eyes and a clear dark skin.

For recreation he played golf and tennis and liked to hike and commune with Nature. In 1931, he greatly enjoyed another trip to Ireland in company with his mother. They stayed six months and Galen had the pleasure of seeing his relatives, including an uncle who was an air pilot. After his return he often told of seeing "The Giant's Causeway" and many other wonderful sights. The pilot uncle captured his imagination and made him want to learn to fly.

Galen read extensively, selecting books of history and travel, also poetry and some worth while modern fiction. He liked the legitimate stage and the best screen films.

His religious activities were with St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church in Kalamazoo, of which he was a member and in which he was at one time an acolyte and a member of the internationally known St. Luke's choir.

In his home training and as a flyer he had learned self discipline. He was devoted to duty and was marked as a leader. He appreciated his home and his parents and their sacrifices for him. To his new life with wife and baby daughter he brought tenderness and devotion and a fine wholesome young manhood.

Galen Warren O'Brien, patriot and pilot, giving your life for your country - we salute you!

The following letter is cherished by Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien:

June 16, 1943

My dear friends,-

In your hour of bereavement it becomes difficult to find words to express suitably our sympathy and deep concern. I hope you will find a measure of consolation in the memory of by-gone days.

We, too, shall miss him. He was a lovable personality, livened by an initiative and warm sense of fellowship, that contributed much to our association in his choirboy days. That record will stand as a permanent memorial to his fine character.

May his soul rest in peace.

Sincerely,

To Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien

Henry Overley

Mrs. Galen O'Brien received the following
letters from Generals Arnold and Marshall:

WAR DEPARTMENT
Commanding General Army Air Forces
Washington

June 23, 1943

My dear Mrs. O'Brien:

With profound regret I have learned of the death of your husband, Second Lieutenant Galen Warren O'Brien, on May 24th, 1943, in an airplane accident in the North African Theater of Operations.

I am advised that Lieutenant O'Brien transferred from the Royal Canadian Air Forces to the United States Army Air Forces for the training as an aviation cadet. During this period he displayed unusual ability and graduated from the Advanced Flying School at Luke Field with an outstanding record. As an officer he exhibited a devotion to duty which marked him as a leader and one who could be relied on to do his best at all times. His death is mourned by all who knew him well.

It is my hope that time tempers your grief and that you will be comforted by the knowledge that your husband made the supreme sacrifice for his Country.

My deepest sympathy to you and to other members of the family.

Very sincerely,

H. H. Arnold,
General, U. S. Army,
Commanding General, Army Air Forces.

Mrs. Galen W. O'Brien,
2708 Stewart Drive,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

Mrs. Vera O'Brien,
2708 Stewart Drive,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear Mrs. O'Brien:

My deepest personal sympathy goes to you in this time of sadness in your home.

Although the full details of Galen O'Brien's death are not available at this time, he died while in the service of his country and he will not be forgotten by those who are determined to bring this terrible struggle to a victorious conclusion.

Again, my deepest sympathy,

Faithfully yours,

G. C. Marshall

Chief of Staff.

The poem on the following page was provided by Father A. G. Fowkes, rector of St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church, who conducted Eucharist services for Lt. Galen Warren O'Brien.

Oh! I have slipped the surly bands of earth

And danced the skies on laughter-silvered
wings!

Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling
mirth

Of sun-split clouds -- and done a hundred
things

You have not dreamed of -- wheeled and soared
and swung

High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.

Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue

I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy
grace

Where never lark, or even eagle flew --

And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space

Put out my hand and touched the
Face of God.

John McGee

And I have slipped the early bonds of earth
 And danced the skies on foot-prints-errand
 winged
 Dromedars I've climbed, and joined the tumbling
 air
 In wild-ecstasy of sight -- and done a hundred
 things
 The heart not feared of -- wheeled and soared
 and swung
 Out in the sunlit silence, soft-winged day,
 I've chased the shouting wind along and long,
 I've glided o'er the lonely hills of air,
 Up, up the long, delirious, burning sky
 I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy
 grace
 Where never lark, or even eagle flies --
 And, while with silent, light I'm pushing
 The big, ungodly, ungodly, god-like
 But out of my mind and launched the
 fact of God.
 John Keats



Dr. Donald P. Osborne

D R. D O N A L D P. O S B O R N E.

Donald P. Osborne was born in Cleveland, Ohio, the son of the Reverend and Mrs. David C. Osborne. He graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan in 1902 and came to Kalamazoo and entered practice here in the spring of 1903.

The death of Dr. Donald P. Osborne at Borgess Hospital on Saturday morning, April 28, 1934, after an illness of a little more than 12 hours came as a great shock to the people of Kalamazoo. He had spent the entire day Thursday in caring for his practice, but Friday morning he was ill and in the afternoon Dr. John T. Burns, an intimate friend of the deceased, was called, an examination showed that Dr. Osborne was suffering from an attack of pneumonia. He was taken to the hospital at 4:00 p. m. where he failed to respond to treatment; the oxygen tent proved futile and at 2:00 o'clock Saturday morning the end came.

Dr. Osborne was the last survivor of a family of six, four brothers and a sister having preceded him in death. The father, the Reverend Osborne, a retired Methodist minister, died in this city a number of

years ago. The deceased is survived by the daughter Elizabeth Osborne, 14 years of age, residing at home.

The body of Dr. Osborne lay in state at the Goodale Funeral Home on Sunday and hundreds came to see their friend and benefactor for the last time.

People from all walks of life, with heavy hearts and tear-dimmed eyes, came and went, all day long. They loved the doctor, for the man that he was. He was their friend and physician. When things looked blackest and hope had given way to despair, he saw them through their troubles.

Services were held at St. Luke's Episcopal Church at 3:30 o'clock, Monday afternoon April 30, 1934, the Reverend Gordon Fowkes officiating. The church could not begin to hold all the sorrowing friends who had come to pay their last respects to one whose memory they will always cherish.

Death took Dr. Osborne at the age of 56, his health broken, in the giving of his best for the welfare of others, and as the editor of the Gazette fittingly said:

"The kind of service which characterized his life was the kind which just "come natural" to certain people whose sense of duty and rightness is a part of their whole being. For Dr. Osborne it was

the most natural thing in the world to keep constantly busy caring for the sick, fighting off the forces that endanger human life, assuaging human suffering with all the skill and knowledge at his command, serving as a dependable friend and counsellor to all who required this form of aid. The gruff outward manner of the man deceived no one; it was, indeed, an obvious and altogether lovable exterior which concealed very poorly one of the kindest hearts and one of the most charitable, sympathetic souls Kalamazoo has ever known."

Interment was made in the family lot in Mountain Home.

---The Augustinian.
May 5, 1934.

Jacob Oswalt



J A C O B O S W A L T

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Master Sergeant Jacob Oswalt was one of three army fliers killed in the crash of a cargo plane at Belle Center, Ohio, Friday night, January 26, 1945. He was a mechanic with the Ferry Command of the United States Army Air Corps with the Third Flying group stationed at Romulus, Michigan. The plane, based at Romulus, was en route from Buffalo, New York, to Patterson Field, Dayton, Ohio, and was within sixty miles of its destination when it crashed.

Jacob Oswalt enlisted in 1941 and was given the number 16014664. He left Kalamazoo, Michigan, June 24, 1941, for Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri, where he was assigned to 354 SS, Flight 33, Tent 39. He remained at Jefferson Barracks from June 25, 1941, until July 31, 1941, and then went to Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, where he was assigned to Barracks 400 - 379 - 377 - 7th SS, P. O., F. E., F. B. He remained at Chanute Field until January 13, 1942, when he transferred to Presque Ile, Maine, where he was assigned to Barracks 8, Hq., &

Hq., 94 AB. He was then sent to Boston, Massachusetts, and to Washington, District of Columbia, and then overseas to the Gold Coast of Africa. Jacob Oswalt spent thirty months in overseas service and was a member of the first group of military fliers to be sent to the African-Middle Eastern theatre to replace civilians at a Pan-American air-way.

At the time of his death he was serving as an engineer-inspector for the ferrying command. He returned from Africa in the fall of 1944 and following a month's furlough spent at his home in Kalamazoo, Michigan, he reported to Romulus, Michigan. The day before his death his mother received a letter from him telling her he planned to spend the week-end in Kalamazoo.

Jacob's Family and Education

Jacob Oswalt was born in Diamond, Indiana, September 18, 1917, son of George William and Mary White Oswalt. The father died August 14, 1933.

The family moved to Clinton, Indiana, when Jacob was about four years old, and resided there two or three years, during which time Jacob began to attend school. In 1925, the family moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where Jacob attended the Edison, Washington and Central High Schools and was

graduated from Central High School in 1935. After graduation Jacob was employed for four years by the Lucas Coal Company in Kalamazoo.

Harriet Frances Oswalt, born November 2, 1896, was Jacob's oldest sister. She died September 2, 1897.

Margaret, another sister, was born February 10, 1898, married James Fox and they became the parents of William Fox. She died May 20, 1943.

James, a brother, was born May 6, 1901, married Marie De Camp and they became the parents of James, Robert, William Thomas and Mary and reside now, 1946, in Oshtemo, Michigan.

Andrew, another brother, was born May 21, 1908, married Betty Philips, served as an engineer for two years in England, France and Germany in World War II, and they now reside in Marion, Indiana.

Robena, another sister of Jacob, was born July 22, 1914, married Clark Drake and they became the parents of Oscar and Robert and reside in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Personal Characteristics

Jacob Oswalt was of medium height and weight and had dark hair and blue eyes. In politics he was a Republican and he attended the Free Methodist Bible School and Church.

Jacob was a sturdy character, thoroughly dependable and loyal to his country. He was devoted to his mother who was proud of him and takes comfort in the fine record of service which he made. He well deserves the gold star which hangs

in the window of his mother's home.

On the first anniversary of his death the following was published in the Kalamazoo Gazette:

"In loving memory of our dear son who passed away one year ago today."

"I cannot say, I will not say
That he is dead: he is just away!
With a cheery smile, a wave of the hand
He has wandered into an unknown land.
And he left us dreaming how very fair,
It needs must be since he lingers there.
And you - oh, you, who the wildest yearn,
For the old-time step and glad return,
Think of him faring on, as dear,
In the love of There, as the love of Here.
Think of him still as the same I say -
He is not dead - he is just away. "

Mother and Sister.

Creston Paine



C R E S T O N P A I N E

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Creston Paine was born in Batavia, Branch county, Michigan, October 24, 1892, son of M. H. and Alice Buys Paine, descendants of New England stock. He attended school in Coldwater, Michigan, and took a course in business and banking in Ferris Institute in Big Rapids, Michigan, finishing in June 1912.

Mr. Ferris employed Creston to substitute for employees in his bank as they took their vacations during the summer of 1912, after which he was given the position of Assistant Cashier in the Farmers' Bank in Breckenridge, Michigan, and remained there for one year and then was made Manager of the Branch of the City Bank of Battle Creek, Michigan. In 1914, Mr. Paine was made Assistant Cashier of the Sturgis National Bank, where he remained until 1917, when he was enlisted in the United States Navy and was discharged honorably in the spring of 1919.

Upon his return from the navy he became Cashier of the First State Bank of Vicksburg, Michigan, and

served for two years. Beginning in 1921, he owned and conducted the Ford Agency in Vicksburg for two years. He then disposed of the agency in Vicksburg and acquired the Ford Agency in Martinsville, Indiana, which he operated for about two years or until 1925, when he sold the Martinsville agency and bought the Ford Agency in Terre Haute, Indiana, where he resided the remainder of his life. He also acquired the Ford Agency in Lafayette, Indiana, and operated both agencies.

In 1925, Mr. Paine was married to Elizabeth Tevis, daughter of Reverend Virgil Tevis, D. D., one time District Superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In personal appearance Mr. Paine was about six feet tall, weighed about one hundred seventy-five pounds, had blonde hair and blue eyes. As a boy he enjoyed playing base ball and later golf. He made many friends, outstanding among them was Mr. W. N. Ferris of Big Rapids. He was playful with his friends, joking and teasing them. He was president of the Kiwanis club in Terre Haute, belonged to the Masons and was a Knight Templar. He spent the winter of 1931 and 1932 in Florida with his mother and Mr. John H. Rayner, whom she had

married. While attending Ferris Institute Mr. Paine united with the Protestant Episcopal Church and his membership was transferred to the churches of that communion in the places where he afterward resided. He gave his undivided energy and attention to his business and prospered. He supported civic enterprises and co-operated in all movements for the public good.

Mr. George O. Dix, an attorney of Terre Haute, Indiana, pays him the following tribute:

"A few years ago there came to Terre Haute, Indiana, unheralded and unknown, a young man who was destined to become in the few short years of his residence one of the best known and leading men of that city. This young man was Creston Paine.

"He came to Terre Haute to take over a business which had been only moderately successful. Therefore, the task which this young man undertook was a difficult one. However, Creston Paine soon demonstrated to his business associates and the people of Terre Haute that the efficiency, the energy and the integrity which he possessed were the things that were necessary to make this new business venture a success. Creston Paine soon became the leading and most successful automobile dealer, not only in the city of Terre Haute, but in this trade area.

"He was a man of unbounded force of character and energy. He was endowed with a fine personality. His employees all loved him and the entire community admired and respected him.

"As his attorney and personal advisor from the day he came to Terre Haute until the

day of his untimely death, I had almost daily contact with him in a business way and in a social way. He was as ardent and delightful a golf player as he was a business man.

"One of his most admirable qualities was his unselfish devotion to his mother. He said to me many times that he owed his whole start in life to her and that but for her trust, confidence and help he never would have been able to start in business.

"His tragic death was a terrible shock to his friends and to this whole community where he had established such a fair and honorable name."

October 31, 1933, Mr. and Mrs. Paine were on the golf course following a severe storm which had caused an heavily charged electric wire to be on the ground. Their dog ran for an opossum, the opossum struck the wire, the dog struck the opossum, Mr. Paine caught hold of the dog and Mrs. Paine caught hold of her husband and all were killed.

The funeral was held at Three Rivers, Michigan, conducted by the Reverends George D. Yinger of the Methodist Church and J. W. Malcolm of the Presbyterian Church and both Mr. and Mrs. Paine rest in the Mausoleum in Riverside cemetery at Three Rivers.



Caroline Armstrong Parker

C A R O L I N E A R M S T R O N G
P A R K E R

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Caroline Armstrong was born in Cooper Township, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, September 21, 1853, and lost her mother at that time. Soon after she was adopted by Saul Parker.

Caroline Armstrong Parker was married to Tobias Wilson, who was born August 24, 1853, and died January 22, 1916. They were the parents of two children: Neva, born August 30, 1879, married Robert Cone, was the mother of Vaughn Cone, born in Buffalo, North Dakota, August 10, 1905 - she died December 5, 1914; Lester J. Wilson, who married Lulu Cook, and is the father of Arthur Tobias of Fargo, North Dakota, Elmer Lester born in 1930, Neva Gwendolyn born December 27, 1920, Eleanor Ruth born May 15, 1922, Lester St. Clair born June 2, 1925, Jack Earl born December 23, 1926, Shirley Jean born October 2, 1932. Arthur Tobias Wilson was born in 1928, and is married. Elmer Wilson is married and resides in Saginaw, Michigan.

Mrs. Caroline Wilson married George Parker in 1924. He died in 1929.

Mrs. Parker was fond of travel and for the last

six or seven years she went to Novleton, Florida, where she owned a home, and spent her winters there.

She was at one time a member of the Eastern Star and was a Methodist by preference and attendance.

Death came to Mrs. Parker in a hospital in Brooksville, Florida. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Henry Hulme and burial was made at Cooper. This is written in 1936.

Harry Parker



H A R R Y B U R K E T T P A R K E R

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Harry Burkett Parker was born in Detroit, Michigan, August 11, 1881, son of Ellen Parker and George W. Parker, of English descent. He had three sisters: Mrs. Nellie Thompson, deceased; Mrs. Constance Carland, deceased; Mrs. Alfreda Edell, who resides in New Rochelle, New York state.

George W. Parker, the father of Harry B. Parker, was an extensive traveler and had roamed the world. At one time he sailed a small boat from England to New York. He also made and lost several fortunes. In Charleston, South Carolina, where he was running a great hotel, a yellow fever epidemic ruined him financially. While conducting a wholesale and export business in San Francisco his business was ruined by the earthquake and fire which devastated that city. He came to Kalamazoo in 1904 at the age of sixty-six to visit his son Harry, who was then city editor of the Telegraph. One day a phone call just before press time informed the hurried son that a man had been struck by one of the city's automobiles in front of the Burdick Hotel. When the son finally

left the office and went to get the story he found his father badly hurt and lying on the floor of a drug store and the next day he died, the first victim of motor traffic. Nearly fifty years before George W. Parker stopped a runaway horse at about the same spot in Main street and rescued the young lady driver who later became his wife.

From the age of seven until he was twelve Harry Parker resided in Kalamazoo. Then the family went to San Francisco, California, and Harry attended the Graw Preparatory School. About 1899 he returned to Kalamazoo and attended Parsons Business College. He then went to work for the Kalamazoo Telegraph until he was twenty-two. He then secured a position with S. J. Dunkley, who was president of the Fruit Belt railway lines and was also a part owner of a Lake Michigan Steamship company and owned a number of canning factories, including those in Hartford, Grand Rapids, Hastings, South Haven and Kalamazoo. Mr. Parker looked after the advertising. He remained with Mr. Dunkley until about 1907, when he went with the Evening Press as city editor and a stockholder.

About 1911, Mr. Parker went into the automobile business in which he was a pioneer. He headed the

Kalamazoo Auto Sales Company for a quarter of a century prior to his death. He bought his first automobile in 1910, a Stanley steamer. During the time he was engaged in the automobile business he sold nearly 16,000 new cars and more than 5,000 used cars. He handled ten or fifteen different makes of automobiles during the time he was in business and introduced the sensational new Chrysler in Kalamazoo. In 1924 his business totalled \$1,200,000. For a long time Mr. Parker carried on his automobile business at the corner of Westnedge and Michigan avenue, from which he moved to 249 Portage street in the summer of 1935. He was the founder and first president of the Kalamazoo Automobile Trade Association.

Mr. Parker was a member of the Rotary, the Elks, the Torch club and attended the First Presbyterian Church and St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church, in the latter of which he was baptized. In politics he was a Republican. He started the Gull Lake Yacht club, of which he was at one time Commodore. He also belonged to the Gull Lake Ice Yacht club.

Mr. Parker took a very active interest in every civic movement. He was connected with the Civic Players and was named president of the re-organized Kalamazoo Humane Society. His affection for animals

and people qualified him for this position and through his leadership extensive relief was given to suffering animals and folk throughout the county. He was an enthusiastic horseman and owned horses and dogs, and was one of the organizers of the Kalamazoo Saddle club. He was chairman of the drive to raise the money for building the New Borgess Hospital.

Among the varied civic interests, Mr. Parker's first love was music. He was a flutist and helped to found the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. He played engagements with Fischer's orchestra and played in the pit at the Academy of Music. For more than twenty-five years he took a deep interest in the Symphony Orchestra. Some of his favorite numbers were not included in the files of the orchestra, much to his regret. His friends planned a Parker Memorial Music Fund to purchase scores of the many musical masterpieces for which he had expressed a pronounced preference, among the first that of Tschaikowsky's Fourth Symphony.

August 19, 1903, Harry B. Parker married Pearl D. Dunkley, daughter of Ida E. and Samuel J. Dunkley. They first met in South Haven where Mr. Parker was playing a musical engagement. They are the parents of: Dorothy D.; Harriet S.; Marian, who married

Stuart Smith and resides in Lawton, Michigan, and is the mother of Suzanne and Peter; Daniel Burkett, who married Harriett Martin and resides in Battle Creek, Michigan, and is the father of Deborah Wing, Betty K., John Atherton and Harry Burkett, Jr.

Death came to Mr. Parker very suddenly in the office of Dr. Walter Den Bleyker March 21, 1936. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend A. Gordon Fowkes of St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church and burial was in Mountain Home cemetery.

The following editorial appeared in the Kalamazoo Gazette:

"It is a deep and sincere sense of loss which pervades all Kalamazoo today. An influence very vital, inspiring, cheering, and strengthening has passed out of the life of this community. Harry B. Parker is gone.

"It is not easy to describe Harry's long career of service to Kalamazoo without falling into many of the same old words and phrases so commonly used in tributes to numerous persons who have been known rightly as real community leaders. But Harry was different. He was a fountain of enthusiasm for every good cause, every good interest which attracted his support, yet he was a hard worker who inspired others not only by his leadership but by his example. There are plenty of men who can move swiftly from one major enthusiasm to another, lending the force of their personality to this and that project in rapid succession and accomplishing a great deal of good along the way. Harry was that sort of man, but with this difference: he insisted upon seeing each project carried to assured suc-

cess before switching his interest to another. In Kalamazoo's business life, in its civic affairs, in its world of sport, and its cultural activities he was a dependable source of support, struggling at all times for the good of the community yet carrying on his struggles with an almost miraculous immunity to that petty strife and jealousy and personal bitterness which all too often mar the shield of civic progress. Harry just wasn't the sort of man to make enemies; if he ever had a mean thought in his life he certainly kept it as a secret unto himself. He didn't need to abhor publicity and personal glorification - he never even thought about such things. His mind was too thoroughly occupied with carrying out whatever good thing he happened to be interested in from time to time.

"Kalamazoo admired Harry Parker, respected him highly, appreciated his unfailing energy and enthusiasm in every good cause. But it did more than that. It loved him. It knows today it has lost a valuable community leader, but it doesn't think about the matter that way. What it really feels in this hour of bereavement is the loss of a beloved fellow citizen, a loyal and cheerful friend, a man whose very presence was enough to make anyone feel better and whose dynamic co-operation was enough to assure the success of any good undertaking. May the memory of his constructive influence continue to render Kalamazoo at least a share of the rich service which this community received from Harry himself."

Written December 9, 1936.

W. W. Parsons



W I L L I A M W A L T E R P A R S O N S

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William Walter Parsons, second son of Professor William F. and Mary Sibley Parsons, was, like his father, one of Michigan's foremost leaders in commercial education. He took over the management of Parsons Business School on the death of his father, March 3, 1914, and continued to direct the policies of the fine old institution until his death. He was largely instrumental in organizing the Business Schools of Michigan, was the first president of the association, and served on important committees during all the years of his connection with the organization.

His sympathetic understanding of young people, his faith in them, his desire to better the conditions of all with whom he came in contact, his fine unselfishness and his zeal for education, combined with a rare enthusiasm and a strong personality, easily made him a leader in his chosen field. His students found in him not only the able teacher, but the good friend, and he remained that always.

Born in Kalamazoo November 30, 1879,
Mr. Parsons was educated in the public schools,

completing his education in Kalamazoo College and Parsons Business School. In early manhood he became associated with his father and his sister, the late Miss Caroline Parsons, in the work of the school.

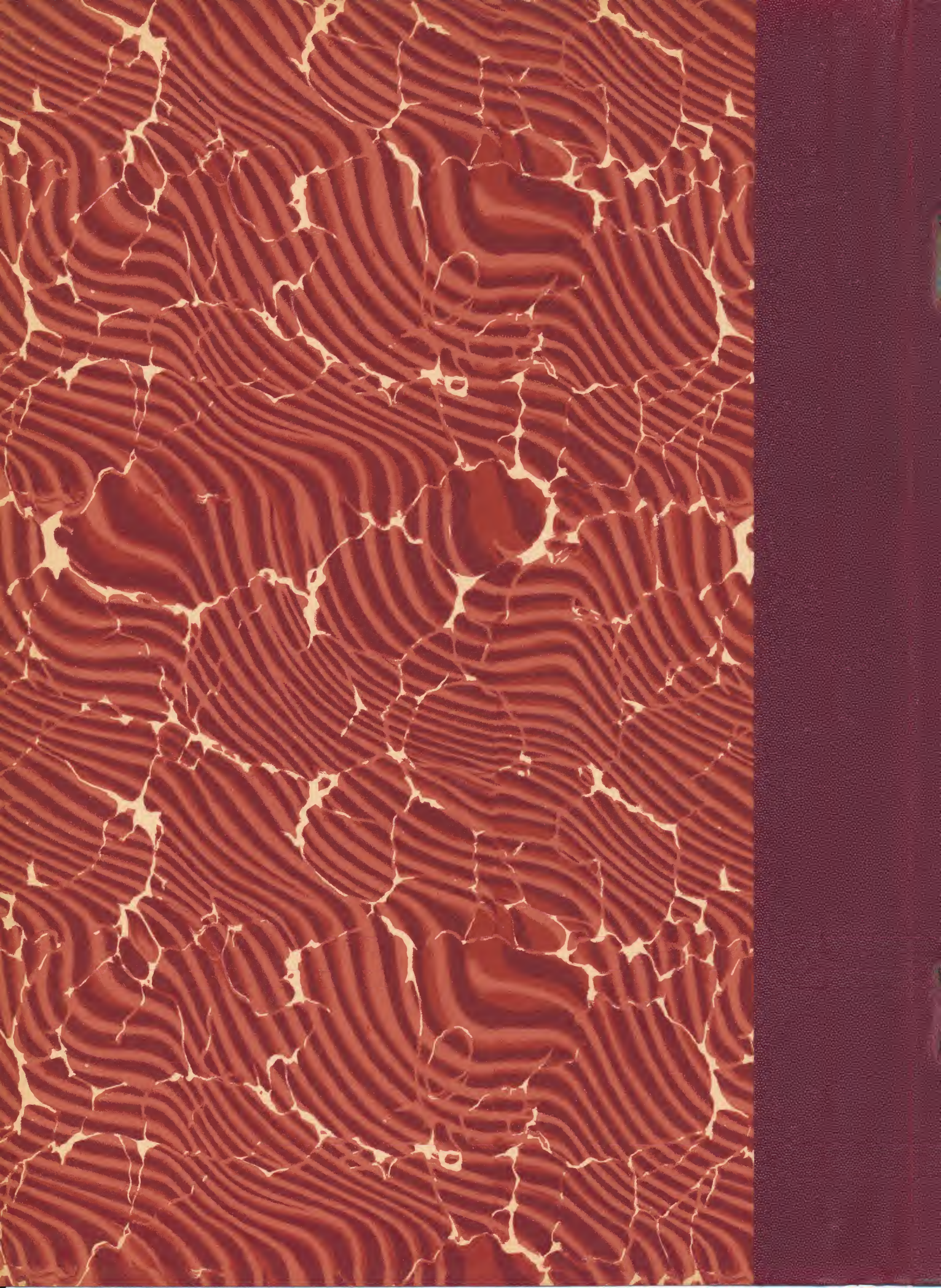
Mr. Parsons was twice married. His first wife, Helen Alexena Campbell, whom he married September 23, 1909, died September 27, 1923, leaving two daughters, Mary Jane and Elizabeth Ann. On June 19, 1926, he married Gertrude Sibley Menut of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, who with the two daughters survive him. An only brother, Frederick Sibley Parsons of Kalamazoo, died in 1926.

In 1925, Mr. Parsons went to Detroit to enter the lumber business, but he continued his connection with Parsons School. Five years later he removed to Vermont. In April 1935, he returned to Kalamazoo to take over the active management of the school. He had not been well for a few months, but had apparently recovered, and the end came suddenly on the morning of Memorial day, 1935, in his office in Parsons Business School where so much of his life had been passed.

Mr. Parsons was a life-time member of the First Presbyterian church of Kalamazoo, and had served as

deacon. He was a former president of the Kiwanis club, and was affiliated with various educational organizations. The Rev. John W. Dunning, pastor of the Presbyterian church, and a long-time friend conducted funeral services on June 2 and burial was in the Parsons family lot in Mountain Home cemetery.

(The foregoing was written in 1936)





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